WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
EXPANDED PROGRAMME ON IMMUNIZATION

TRAINING FOR MID-LEVEL MANAGERS

INTRODUCTION

02

COMMUNITY HEALTH CELL

47/1 St. Mark's Road, Bangalore – 560 001

THIS BOOK MUST BE RETURNED BY
THE DATE LAST STAMPED

Introduction to Training for Mid-Level Managers of Expanded Programmes on Immunization

This course is designed to help you develop the skills you need to manage immunization activities. You may not need all of the skills included in the course. The course is planned so that you can work on the skills that will be most useful to you.

Why is the Expanded Programme on Immunization Important?

You may know the answer to this question. You may have been working for months or years in your country's immunization programme. If so, you have already seen the results of a childhood immunization programme. You have seen fewer children become sick or die from vaccine-preventable diseases.

Unlike the Smallpox Eradication Programme, an Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) requires a long-term commitment to continued immunization activities. The purpose is to provide vaccinations to small children to protect them against common, frequently severe, childhood diseases. The vaccine-preventable diseases included in the programme are measles, polio, diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, and tuberculosis. Your country's programme presently may not include all of these vaccinations, or it may include other vaccinations as well.

Whenever possible, more than one vaccination is given at a time. In general, infants must be brought to a clinic three or four times to receive the complete series of vaccinations. Most countries plan to vaccinate a child completely by the time the child is a year old. In areas where neonatal tetanus is a problem, pregnant women may be given tetanus toxoid to protect their unborn children.

Why is there a training course for mid-level managers?

The job of managing immunization activities is a difficult one. It involves many separate tasks. In order for the immunization programme to be effective, each of these tasks must be done correctly. The tasks require special skills. You may be responsible for managing one or more of these tasks. You will probably be asked to do this along with other health activities. We are providing this training to help you with the very important work you have to do.

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How is the course organized?

The course is designed around the major tasks which must be done in order to manage an immunization programme. Each major task is described and taught in a booklet called a module. These tasks are listed below:

- Allocate Resources
- Manage the Cold Chain System
- Conduct Vaccination Sessions
- Evaluate Vaccination Coverage
- Supervise Performance
- Provide Training
- Conduct Disease Surveillance
- Ensure Public Participation

Each module is separate from the other lessons. In other words, you can study any of the modules in any order. You should concentrate on those modules which are most directly related to your particular work.

Most modules contain practice exercises. You should complete each exercise and check your answers with a course manager (instructor). Course managers are at the course to provide you with materials, answer questions, and lead discussions. Feel free to ask for help whenever you do not understand something. In some cases, group discussions will be held to add to the information provided in the modules. You will learn most from this course by working carefully, asking questions, and offering your own suggestions.

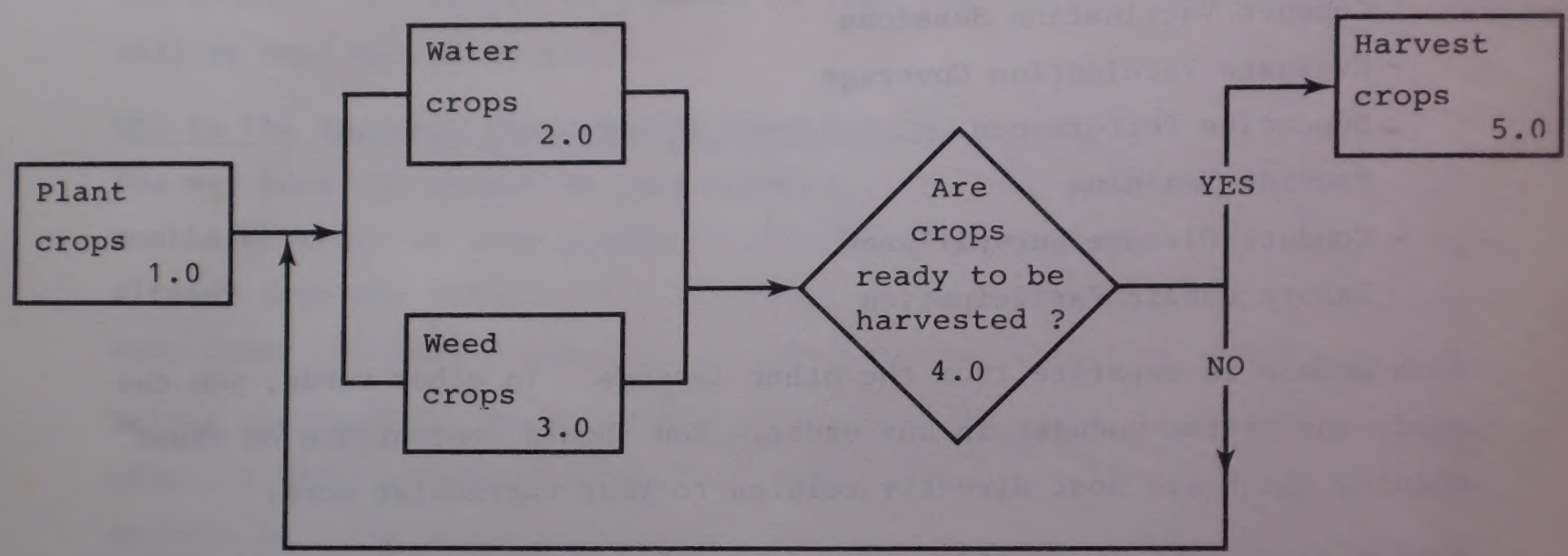
How do I start?

Your course manager will give you a module and any special instructions you need. The introduction to the module will tell you what skill you will practice. The modules will also have flowcharts which show the tasks involved in the skill and the order in which these tasks should be performed.

At first, you may find it difficult to understand a flowchart. An example is provided on page 3. Each block (□) in the flowchart represents a basic task. Read the blocks in order from left to right unless the arrows indicate otherwise. A diamond (◇) shows that a decision must be made. If the decision is "yes," follow the "yes" arrow; if the decision is "no," follow the "no" arrow. Sometimes two blocks in the flowchart may be placed

on top of one another, as are blocks 2.0 and 3.0 below. This means that tasks 2.0 and 3.0 may be done at the same time, or that the order of the tasks does not matter.

FLOWCHART EXAMPLE: GROWING CROPS



Begin work on your module and ask questions whenever you need to.

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WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
IN COOPERATION WITH
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL